REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, the application has been amended to conform with U.S. practice, the cross-reference to related applications has been inserted on page 1. The claims have been amended to delete the multiple dependencies and to improve their form. A typographical error in claim 1 has been corrected. No new matter has been introduced. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

> Respectfully submitted, Hermann HOFFMANN ET AL

COLLARD & ROE, P.C. 1077 Northern Boulevard Roslyn, New York 11576 (516) 365-9802

Allison C. Collard/ Reg.No. Edward R. Freedman, Reg. No. 26,048

Attorneys for Applicants

22,532

FJD:lgh

Express Mail No.: EV 857 473 248 US Express Mail Date: March 30, 2006

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, on the date indicated above, and is addressed to Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.